

***Drawings***

2. The drawings submitted September 16, 2008 are acceptable.

Share

***Examiner's Amendment***

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicants' attorney, Mr. John J. Kelly, Jr, on June 2, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

- I. Claims 8 to 12, directed to the non-elected invention have been canceled.
- II. In claim 6, line 4, the phrase, "apparatus is based on" has been deleted and —is—has been inserted in its place.
- III. In claim 6, line 5, the word, "apparatus" has been deleted.
- IV. In claim 7, line ~~3~~<sup>4</sup>, the word, "apparatus" has been deleted.

***Examiner's Statement of Reasons For Allowance***

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reason for allowance is that none of the references alone or in combination teach or suggest a method comprising the step of scanning a steel sheet perpendicular to the rolling direction with a continuous wave laser beam wherein the laser is of a TEM<sub>00</sub>

T.S.  
6/27/08